

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please insert the following paragraph before the first sentence of the application at page 1, line 1:

This application claims the benefit of International Application No. PCT/EP2003/013500 filed on December 1, 2003 under 35 U.S.C. §371, entitled, "Method and Plant for the Heat Treatment of Solids Containing Iron Oxide Using a Fluidized Bed Reactor" which claims the benefit of German Patent Application No. 102 60 733.8 filed on December 23, 2002.